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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Kazunobu FUJIKAWA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/763,194

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: 1725

Filed: February 20, 2001

Examiner: Unknown

**RECEIVED**  
NOV 16 2001  
**TC 1700**

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SURFACE DISCHARGE PROCESSING, AND AN  
ELECTRODE FOR SURFACE DISCHARGE PROCESSING

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:**

**A/** This is a continuation application of PCT Patent Application PCT/JP99/02379, filed May  
7, 1999, which was published in Japanese.